

made sure that a certain number of jobs went to the private sector, but without there being a quota. I never heard of that figure in any form. Indeed, the current figures are in the vicinity of 35-65, and you could ask for instance in other constituencies, according to areas, if I am not mistaken it is in the constituency of our colleague for Nickel Belt (Mr. Rodriguez) where industry is perhaps in greater difficulty, in his constituency I think 20 per cent goes to the private sector and 80 per cent to the other side.

Mr. Malépart: Some 40 per cent in all the ridings of the Montreal area!

Mrs. Champagne: I have never seen any written direction to that effect.

As to the other question, the Hon. Member must be very happy indeed that additional amounts were made available to his riding. I am happy for instance that a student in the hotel business will work and be in charge of food management. Another student specializing in mechanical engineering will work and be in charge of a pumping station, while another student specializing in law enforcement techniques will work for the security service. These are only three of several jobs which have been created.

And when you say without your permission, my dear friend . . . I am sorry, Mr. Speaker, I address the Chair. The Hon. Member has stated that all of this was done without his permission. I think that everybody is well aware that Hon. Members have been able to see a list and come to an understanding with Employment and Immigration Canada officials. Whenever there was a consensus, there were no problems and all projects were accepted. When there was no agreement, the Minister's office had the responsibility to make decisions, a procedure everybody is aware of.

[English]

Ms. McDonald: Mr. Speaker, I share the concerns which have been raised here about the whole program. I want to raise a question about my own riding. Certainly non-profit community activities such as day care, sports, and others were cut back. Extremely good projects were cut back from previous years.

However, I should like to raise a particular question with the Minister concerning consultation with the MP's office. A number of projects came in. My office was consulted. I gave advice, some of which was not taken and some of which was taken. On the majority of projects there was no consultation. We received a batch of projects by special delivery. My assistant replied the very same day by telephone, but was told that the decisions had been taken without any input from the MP's office. Further, there was a project for which we never saw any application whatsoever. Thus, out of \$190,000 worth of projects, \$137,300 were allocated without input, improperly allocated. Is the Minister prepared to have this money made up so that there can be input according to the normal understanding?

Supply

Mrs. Champagne (Saint-Hyacinthe—Bagot): Mr. Speaker, on the second point raised by the Hon. Member, I do not know how it could have happened. I will certainly inquire. I know that my colleagues and I spent one day from seven o'clock in the morning until eleven o'clock at night looking at each and every one of the projects in Saint-Hyacinthe—Bagot, trying to make what would be an acceptable choice to the people in the riding. I will look into the dates and so on and get back to the Hon. Member.

The Hon. Member said that there were some cut-backs and that even some of the non-profit organizations did not receive any funding. I think we must realize that this is a job-creation and training program for students during the summer. It is not a way to give core funding to social organizations, and this is what has been happening for the last 15 years. These organizations were counting on summer employment money as their core funding. This is wrong, and this will not happen again.

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, I want to say how much the people of Winnipeg and I appreciate the fact that we are having this debate. This year thousands of community organizations, which were able to provide very necessary and needed services to people who were handicapped, old, and sick, will not receive the funds they received in other years. They have come here to Ottawa and have held meetings in cities across the country to express their amazement, consternation, and complete dissatisfaction with the decisions of the Government.

The reason they are unhappy is very simple. I wish the Minister could remain here to listen to some of the complaints. We have learned that the budget for the Summer Employment Experience Development Program for this year has been cut by \$36 million. There was a further diversion of the shrunken amount into private sector wage subsidies. In the case of the SEED program, non-profit groups are receiving about 50 per cent of the \$127 million in current funding instead of up to 80 per cent of last year's \$163 million, which is an over-all reduction of almost \$67 million this year. It is not surprising that there have been very vigorous complaints from non-profit groups in urban centres. They feel the rug has been pulled out from under social service programs which are so necessary in their communities.

• (1700)

The Government made a very clear ideological choice. The Government started with a very simple principle, that jobs in the private sector are useful, necessary and good; jobs in the non-profit sector are wasteful and not very important. Starting with that principle, the Government paid wage subsidies to private business in preference to providing social services. The Government ignored the problems of the inner city in order to pad a business balance sheet. What it is saying in stark terms is: "We are not going to help the helpless. We are going to help those who do not really need it".

This ideological choice, and it was a heartless choice, was brought to the attention of the Government just this week by a